

**MINUTES
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COMMISSION ON EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

**Hilton Irvine/Orange County Airport
Irvine, CA
September 22, 2004**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Chuck Baucom, EMT-P, Dorothy Bizzini, Ron Blaul, EMT-P, Megan Corry, EMT-P, Eugene Hardin, MD, Sterling Johnson, EMT-P, Jan Ogar, RN, Angelo Salvucci, MD, Lewis Stone, Tim Sturgill, MD, Dan Sullivan

PAST COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Ramon Johnson, MD

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

David Hoyt, MD, Babatunde Jinadu, MD, Lou Meyer, Michael Rossini, MD

EMS AUTHORITY STAFF PRESENT:

Sheila Martin, Maureen McNeil, Rich McSherry, Bonnie Sinz, Nancy Steiner, Dan Smiley, Sean Trask, and Richard Watson

AUDIENCE PRESENT:

Kevin O'Laughlin, Northern California EMS Agency
Chester Ward, MD, Northern California EMS Agency
Tom McGinnis, Hall Ambulance Service
Darlene Gidley, Orange County EMS Agency
Ruth Grubb, Orange County Fire Authority
Debbie Becker, CCEMSA
David Nevins, California Ambulance Association
Diane Fisher, Inland County EMS Agency
Lucy Adams, Los Angeles County EMS Agency
Ray Ramirez, Ontario Fire Department
Pam Martinez, Chino Valley Fire Department
Stephanie Rasmussen, Rancho Cucamonga Fire Department
Rosalind Mitchell, MD, Mountain-Valley EMS Agency
Bruce Haynes, MD, Orange County EMS Agency
Allen Morrini, MD, EMDAC/Coastal Valleys EMS Agency
Gary Vilke, MD, San Diego County EMS Agency
Jim Holbrook, Crafton Hills College
Tom Stoudt, Montclair Fire Department

Marc Burdick, Santa Barbara EMS Agency
Debbie Notturmo, Upland Fire Department
Bonny Martignoni, Coastal Valleys EMS Agency
Nancy Merman, Ventura City Fire Department
Steve Andriese, Mountain-Valley EMS Agency
Daniel Lynch, Central California EMS Agency
Terry Murphy, MD, El Dorado County EMS Agency
Joe Powell, Rialto Fire Department
Mary Kaylor, Riverside County EMS Agency
Jake Heflin, California State Firefighters Association
Kathy Crow, Crafton Hills College
Doug Buchanan, Mountain-Valley EMS Agency
Kevin White, California Professional Firefighters
Nancy Lapolla, Santa Barbara County EMS Agency
Leonard R. Inch, Sierra Sacramento Valley EMS Agency
Michael Osur, Riverside County EMS Agency
Michael Frenn, Solano County EMS Agency
Barry Fisher, Ventura County EMS Agency
Kim Mitchell, CHP Air Operations Section
Cathy Ord, Newport Beach Fire Department
Patti Murrin, San Diego County EMS Agency

Chair Baucom called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

I. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 22, 2004

Action: Moved (Sturgill), seconded (Bizzini), passed unanimously to approve the September 22, 2004 meeting agenda.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF JUNE 23, 2004 MINUTES

Action: Moved (Salvucci), seconded (Blaul) passed unanimously to approve the June 23, 2004 Minutes.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

Action: Moved (Johnson), seconded (Bizzini) passed unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar.

IV. CALIFORNIA PERFORMANCE REVIEW (CPR) PRESENTATION

Action: Moved (Blaul), seconded (Hardin) passed unanimously to write a letter to the Governor immediately expressing the value of the Commission on EMS.

Action: Moved (Blaul), seconded (Strugill) passed unanimously to create a multidisciplinary task force to review the CPR recommendations and find commonality among the task force to make further recommendations to the Governor.

Action: Moved (Ogar), seconded (Baucom) passed unanimously to recommend to Interim Director Watson to appoint Commissioner Blaul as Chair of the Vision IV Task Force.

Dan Smiley gave a presentation to the Commissioners on the California Performance Review Report. He highlighted areas in the report that were pertinent to the EMS Authority along with the abolishment of the EMS Commission.

Chairman Baucom expressed his opinion that the EMS Authority should not be buried in another department somewhere; rather, the department should report to a Cabinet level Secretary.

Richard Watson, the Interim Director, told the Commission that he believes good things will come out of the CPR Report. He indicated that discussions have not started with the higher levels of Agency yet.

Commissioner Blaul felt that the Commission had taken a leadership role in the Vision Project and strongly believed the Commission needs to take a similar role on CPR as well.

The Interim Director asked Commissioner Blaul and Chairman Baucom to chair a new Vision IV Task Force to discuss the CPR recommendations relating to EMS.

Darlene Gidley, President of EMSAAC, indicated that their Association had taken a serious look at the CPR recommendations. The Association's conclusions were that the EMS Authority should be retained under the Health component because EMS provides prehospital care and deals with hospitals/health on a daily basis.

Chairman Baucom asked the audience who would be interested in participating in the Task Force.

Commissioner Sullivan wanted to know if layperson representation would be desired on this Task Force. Interim Director Watson indicated that all who were interested would be accepted.

Ray Ramirez, of Ontario Fire Department, addressed the Commission and expressed that the elimination of the Commission on EMS would require changing the Health & Safety Code.

David Nevins, President of the California Ambulance Association, indicated that he was in support of a Task Force. He felt that the recommendations had already been presented and that it is urgent for the EMS community to get something on record to the Governor regarding these recommendations.

Commissioner Ogar indicated the Emergency Nurses Association would be open to discussion and consensus building on these recommendations.

Commissioner Blaul reminded the Commission that another representative from California Fire Chiefs Association would need to be on the Task Force if he is to be the Chairman.

It was announced that anyone wishing to be on the Task Force should let Commissioner Blaul know after the meeting.

V. EMT-II REGULATION UPDATE

Sean Trask gave a report on the progress of the EMT-II Task Force. Letters had been sent out to constituent groups requesting interested members to serve on the Task Force. He anticipates that the first meeting of the Task Force will be in late October or early November.

VI. TRIAL STUDY UPDATE

Action: Moved (Salvucci), seconded (Hardin), passed unanimously to accept Sierra County's 36-month report and to continue Sierra County's EMT-II Modular Study with 18-month reports.

Action: Moved (Bizzini), seconded (Corry), passed unanimously to accept the 18-month Santa Barbara EMT-II Modular Trial Study and to continue the study until the EMT-I revisions take effect October 10, 2004.

Marc Burdick gave a brief overview of the Santa Barbara EMT-II Modular Study. After October 10, 2004, the study skills will be in the standard optional scope of practice for Santa Barbara County.

Action: Moved (Bizzini), seconded (Hardin), to approve the continuation of the Riverside County Trial Study on the Melker Crichothyrotomy Catheter Kit with the amendment to extend it to 18 months. The motion passed 10-1.

Commissioner Ogar questioned the reason for continuing the study if it was too difficult to adhere to the 6 month training/refreshers regimen.

VII. EMS AUTHORITY REPORT

Interim Director Watson gave the EMSA report. He discussed the four regulations packages that were approved by the Office of Administrative Law and would go into effect October 10, 2004.

He indicated that legislation had been successful this year with the passage of AB 1655. He told the Commission that the Paramedic Task Force would be reconvened to

determine how the language for the Paramedic Regulations would need to be changed to implement AB 1655.

Another bill, AB 1898, was vetoed by the Governor which would have added a new Commissioner to the Commission.

Leonard Inch, Administrator of Sierra-Sacramento Valley EMS Agency, has published and released his grant report on how the \$47 million was spent on trauma systems throughout the State. Currently, 55 counties of the 58 total counties have a trauma system plan.

In early 2005, the EMS Authority will be distributing the "Emergency First Aid Guidelines of Schools" to over 6500 schools throughout the State.

Interim Director Watson talked about the passing of Jim Page, sometimes called the "Father of EMS".

Interim Director Watson also thanked all those who expressed concern for his health in the last few months.

VIII. OPEN COMMENTS

No comments were made.

Commissioner Ogar requested additional information on Trauma Planning and/or a report on the progress of Trauma Advisory Committee. Interim Director Watson indicated that Trauma would be on the next Commission Agenda as a Discussion Item.

Commissioner Blaul, representing the California Association of Fire Chiefs, adjourned the meeting in honor of Jim Page who had previously served on the Commission on EMS representing CAL Fire Chiefs.

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 pm.